



PC10491A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JAN 04 2002

RECEIVED

IN RE APPLICATION OF: **NOE, ET AL.**

Examiner: **MCKENZIE, T.**

SERIAL NO.: **09/635,433**

Unit: **1624**

FILED: **AUGUST 10, 2000**

FOR: **SELECTIVE INHIBITION OF
AGGRECANASE IN OSTEOARTHRITIS
TREATMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This document responds to the Office Action in the above case mailed June 27, 2001, requiring a response by September 27, 2001.

A Petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this document. If such Petition is granted the period in which to respond will expire on December 27, 2001.

Please amend the application as follows:

CLEAN COPY - ENTER

In the Claims:

Please replace Claim 16 with the following claim:

16. (Twice amended) A method for treating a medical condition of the type that is characterized by the destruction of articular cartilage; wherein said medical condition comprises joint injury, reactive arthritis, acute pyrophosphate arthritis (pseudogout), psoriatic arthritis, osteoarthritis or juvenile rheumatoid arthritis; in a mammalian subject, which method comprises administering to the subject having said condition a therapeutically effective amount of a small molecule having a molecular weight of under 2000 grams/mole, wherein the small molecule exhibits an aggrecanase IC₅₀ of less than about 20 nM, said aggrecanase IC₅₀ measured by an aggrecanase chondrocyte assay.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE - DO NOT ENTER

In the Claims:

Please replace Claim 16 with the following claim:

913
1/5/2
MW

BT
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D1